

WARE RIVER NEWS

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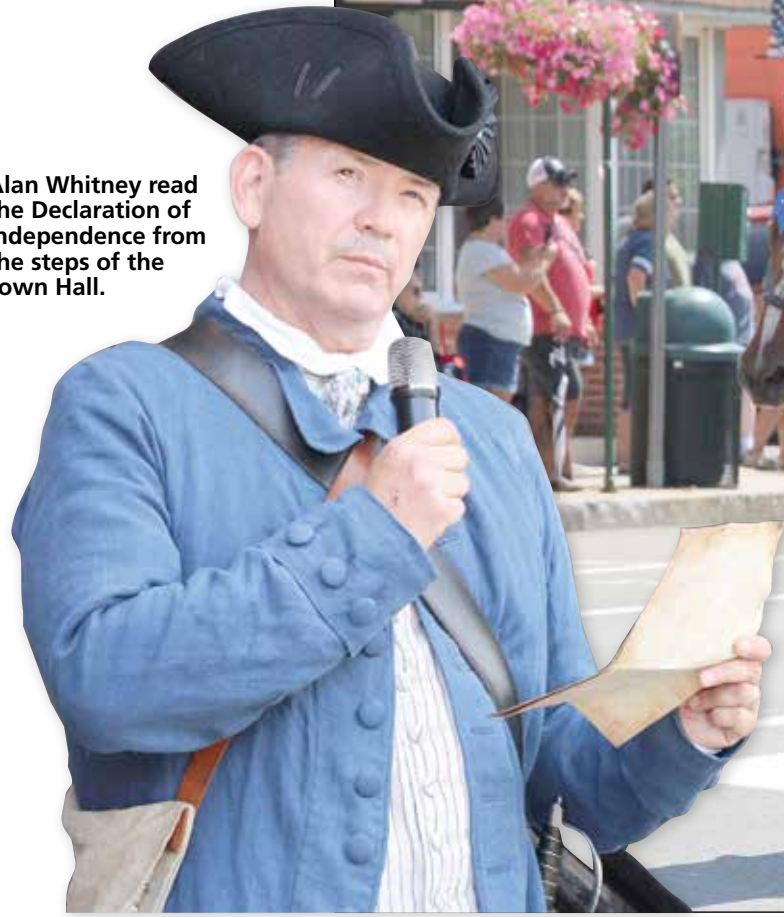
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Celebrating 250 YEARS

CENTER: Tori Crevier rode her horse Sundance during the town's parade this past Saturday morning to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary.

Alan Whitney read the Declaration of Independence from the steps of the Town Hall.



Parade concludes town's weeklong celebration

WARE – The town's 250th U.S. Celebration Committee ended a weeklong series of events in honor of the semiquincentennial with a grand parade, featuring over 70 participants.

The parade stepped off from Church Street this past Saturday morning, turning down Main Street, before traveling to the Big Y plaza on West Street.

Participants included community organizations, state and town officials, local businesses, athletic organizations, political candidates, bagpipers, clowns, equestrians and horses as well as police and fire personnel from Ware and surrounding towns.



Kathy Galford of the Ware Historical Commission wore a historic dress in the parade.

SEE MORE PARADE PHOTOS ON PAGES 6 AND 7.

School Committee discusses cell phone use

By Paula Ouimette
Editor
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – School Committee members discussed implementing a new cell phone policy for the 2026-2027 school year, which would prohibit the use of cell phones during the school day campus-wide, from "bell to bell."

Cell phone use by elementary-level students on school buses was also discussed, as well as the use of wearable

technology such as smart watches and Meta glasses by all students.

At the July 29 meeting, School Committee Chair Brian Winslow said it would be easier to relax the policy if state guidelines change regarding cell phone use, than it would be to tighten it.

The committee will vote on the policy at a future meeting.

Superintendent's report

Interim Superintendent Michael Wood said they have

candidates they are interviewing to fill vacancies in the high school, elementary school and preschool.

Wood said First Student bus company is preparing bus routes, but he does not anticipate any changes. He said some of the buses may have more students than others and they may have to reevaluate the need to add another bus.

"We were certainly full at the end of last year too, so this is not news to us," Wood said.

Wood said work will occur

in the campus parking lots for several days in the early morning hours.

Director of Student Services

Wood announced that Director of Student Services Dr. Ginger Coleman has accepted another position at Pittsfield Public Schools, but she has prepared the school district for the transition.

"We have a bunch of the pre-work for the school year

Please see **CELL PHONE USE**, page 2

'Fireworks Spectacular' lights the sky



Donna Lee Honeywell sang the National Anthem during the Ware Fireworks Spectacular.

The annual fireworks show was bigger and better than ever to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary of independence.



SEE COVERAGE ON PAGE 3.

Turley Photo by Camren Robertson

FAMILY FUN ZONE

Thomas Melchionne climbed the rock wall at Ware's Family Fun Zone.



SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8.

Submitted Photo

Raffle prizes at Music Bingo were donated by The Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc.

Family Game Night held at Ware Senior Center

WARE – The town's 250th U.S. Celebration Committee held a Family Game Night at the Ware Senior Center on July 27.

People of all ages enjoyed four games of Music Bingo, hosted by Wise Guys Trivia. Prizes were awarded to the winner of each round.

The Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc. participated in the Family Game Night by selling snacks and sodas to the large crowd. The Friends also offered chances for a 50/50 raffle and a raffle table with patriotic gift baskets.

It's Wine O'clock served beer and wine for the adults.

Music Bingo with Wise Guys Trivia went over so well that Sue LaBarge,

president of the Friends committee, said there was such a huge interest to have a special event of Music Bingo at the senior center again.



Elaine Nixon took home \$70 from the 50/50 raffle.



Town Clerk lists Early Voting hours

WARE – The Town Clerk announced that all Early Voting for the Sept. 1 State Primary will take place in the Ware Town Hall auditorium located at 126 Main St.

Parking is available in the Municipal Lot directly across from Town Hall and accessible parking is available.

Dates and hours of the Early Voting are as follows: Saturday, Aug. 22 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 24 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 25 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 27 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, Aug. 28 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Outside of the voting booths there will be sample ballots for the Democrat and

Republican Party for you to view.

Those voters registered to vote in either party will receive their party ballot upon checking in; voters who are Unenrolled will need to make a choice of either the Democrat or Republican Party ballot.

A reminder that as an Unenrolled voter after the State Primary you immediately return to the status of being a registered voter but not enrolled in that party.

Note that the last date to register to vote for participation in the State Primary will be 10 days prior on Saturday, Aug. 22.

The last date to submit an application for Vote by Mail is Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 5 p.m.

For voters who have requested a Vote by Mail Ballot and have received them, the last date to return your ballot is State Primary Day – Sept. 1 at 8 p.m. when the polls have closed.

If you are in doubt as to being a registered voter, your party affiliation, or wish to register to vote please check www.mass.gov – Elections and Voting for the information you are seeking.

Voters may also view a sample of the Democrat and Republican ballots at the above website.

Questions may be directed to the Town Clerk Nancy J. Talbot at 413-967-9648 extension 177.

Special Town Meeting to be held on Aug. 12

HARDWICK – There will be a Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Office Building, 307 Main St., Gilbertville.

The warrant for the meeting may be found at www.hardwick-ma.gov, at the Municipal Building, and at the Gilbertville, Wheelwright and Hardwick post offices.

WHS Class of 1976 plans 50th reunion

WARE – Ware High School Class of 1976 is planning its 50th reunion celebration to be held on Oct. 17 at Teresa's Restaurant.

Class alumni have reached out to many, but are still in need of contact information for many other classmates.

If you have not yet been contacted, or you know someone who needs information or for other questions, text or call Michelle (Nowak) Higney at 413-237-5854.

Vote by Mail postcards mailed for State Primary

WARE – The Secretary of the Commonwealth has sent out Vote by Mail postcards to all registered voters in each city and town.

The application deadline to apply for a Vote by Mail Ballot for the State Primary is Tuesday, Aug. 25.

If you choose to return the postcard please be sure to sign and date the postcard before you return it. Postage has been paid so you can simply mail the card, it is not necessary to drop off in person.

If you choose to drop off the postcard there is a Blue Drop Box outside the lower level of Town Hall marked "Town Clerk," feel free to drop off as the box is checked several times during the day.

Things to remember

Choose which election or elections you wish to receive a Vote by Mail ballot.

If you are enrolled in a party you will receive that party ballot for the State

Primary.

If you are not enrolled in a party (Unenrolled) you must choose which party ballot you desire for the State Primary.

You may wish to vote in the State Election of Nov. 3; if so, then simply check that box only.

Voting status

Please feel free to check your status as a voter by going to www.mass.gov and search for your voter registration information under "Elections and Voting." Here you can see how you are registered, what address you are registered at, your party choice if you have enrolled in a party.

You will also be able to view a sample ballot if you are enrolled in a party.

If you are not registered to vote, have changed your address within the town or wish to change your party enrollment you must do so ten days prior to any election.

Are You Old News?



Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

File Photo
Last week's photo from 2021 showed Abby Brown, Audrey Brown, Amelia Brown, Christine Brown, and in front, Olivia Blais, during the Rock the Park event

If you recognize the folks in this week's photo, please send their names and your full name to pouimette@turley.com.

CELL PHONE USE

from page 1

already done," he said.

Wood said a new education team leader will oversee grades six-12, and a committee will be formed to find a new Director of Student Services.

He said he hopes to start preliminary interviews of candidates during the second week of August.

Financial update

Andy Paquette of TMS, Inc. said they are working to close out fiscal year 2026, and are working on reconciliation with the town. He said any changes to the budget are minor at this time.

Paquette said the school district charges everything to the local budget first, then moves expenses to various grants, Circuit Breaker and school choice funds.

"When we go through this end of the year process...we've gone through and closed out purchase orders that weren't needed," he said.

Paquette said they also used less than anticipated in the substitute salary line item which resulted in them using less school choice funds in FY 26.

"Which again is a good thing for setting us up for FY 27 and beyond," he said.

Student/athletic handbooks

Wood talked about updates to the 2026-2027 student handbook.

"There are no major changes to it," he said.

Wood said the updates include new information from the state in the school district's restraint policy around restorative justice.

He said this new information requires the school district to show evidence of teaching and encouraging positive behavior.

"There has to be evidence that we taught, and we did things to help them understand that they really should change their practice so they're getting on the right trajectory to graduate, or to get promoted to the next grade, etc.," he said. "We have to evidence that we do that pre-work with kids so that the only discipline we do is not strictly a suspension, either in school or out of school."

Wood said time-out and seclusion is not really an option without "clear and identified work done with students to see that's a last resort."

The only update to the athletic handbook is language about high school seniors being able to attend varsity games for free.

The committee voted to approve the athletic handbook and tabled approval of the student handbook pending further review.

District improvement plan

Wood said the School Committee previously adopted a district improvement plan for the years 2025-2028. He put together specific goals, which he believes will move the school district out of status.

"A goal is designed to be a stretch...in many cases you don't achieve the goal within the one-year period, but the idea is that you work toward it," he said.

Goals include maximizing student learning, staying consistent with the Multi-Tiered System of Supports model, MCAS performance, attendance, graduation rates and student discourse.

The School Committee voted to approve the update to the district improvement plan.

School improvement plan

Wood said each school has its own individual improvement plans and there are no changes at the high school or elementary school.

Ware Middle School Principal Kim Thompson said her updates for the school are focused on high quality instructional materials. She said they have worked the past year in partnership with SchoolKit they have selected the curriculum by Amplify CKLA.

"Kids are going to writing, they're going to be reading, they're going to be speaking," she said.

Thompson said the new curriculum will require ongoing professional development throughout the school year.

Thompson said the teachers at the middle school will go back to a "teaming" model, where students will transition between two teachers, one ELA and social studies and the other math and science.

"We used a lot of data to get to that model," she said.



Food Trucks, Farmers & Artisans Markets



Friday, August 14

3pm – 8pm

Hryniewicz Park, Three Rivers, MA

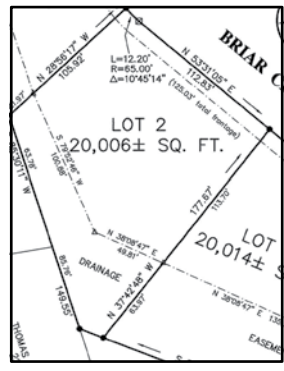
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Jackie Maloney is shown with Alyvia Desantis at the Family Fun Zone this past Saturday for the annual Ware Fireworks Spectacular at the Ware Public Schools campus.



Billy Simons and Stacey Simons found the perfect viewing spot for the fireworks show.

FAMILY FUN ZONE

Community enjoys activities and music

WARE – Following that morning’s parade, community members enjoyed the Family Fun Zone at the Ware Public Schools campus, which set the stage for the annual Ware Fireworks Spectacular this past Saturday.

People of all ages enjoyed bounce houses, a climbing wall, a dunk tank, face painting and more in the hours leading up to the fireworks show, as well as a selection of food trucks offering lemonade, kettle corn, ice cream, donuts and other foods.

Live music was performed by Torie Jock & Damage Control and Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond.



Concertgoers shined their flashlights during a performance of “Sweet Caroline.”



Jean Plouffe, Roy Crevier, Larry Crevier and Bob Plouffe were ready to watch the fireworks show.



Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond performed before the Ware Fireworks Spectacular.



Children enjoyed an inflatable jousting match.

Ware Senior Center NEWS

WARE – The Ware Senior Center, 413-967-9645, located at 1 Robbins Road, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

The thrift store is open each of those days from 9 a.m.-noon. Donations to the store are only accepted by Sue LaBarge, who can be reached by calling 413-544-1574.

ACTIVITIES

Monday, Aug. 10

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 10 a.m. Something to Think About with Charbonneau Funeral Home. Call on Thursday, Aug. 9 by noon to RSVP or be put on the lunch list.
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch

Tuesday, Aug. 11

- 9 a.m. Exercise Class at Valley View Housing
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11 a.m. Lunch Birthday Party. Entertainment by the Elderly Brothers. Call 413-967-9645 or stop by before noon on Aug. 10 to be added to the party list.
- 5:30 p.m. Scrapbooking. \$3 per class.
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Wednesday, Aug. 12

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting Club
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori

Thursday, Aug. 13

- 9 a.m. Exercise at Valley View Housing

- 9 a.m. Walking Club (weather permitting)
- 9:30 a.m. Line Dancing for Beginners
- 10 a.m. Line Dancing
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Art Class

Friday, Aug. 14

- 9 a.m. Tai Chi
- 10 a.m. Scat
- 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Food Bank of Western MA Brown Bag Program
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. Chair Yoga with Lori
- 6 p.m. Pitch (doors open at 5 p.m.)

LUNCHES DINE IN 11:30 a.m.
All meals \$3.50 unless otherwise noted
Required: call 413-967-9645 by noon on the business day before, to put your name on the lunch list.

Monday, Aug. 10
Brunch
Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Sausages, Hash Browns, Dessert of the Day

Tuesday, Aug. 11
Birthday Party
BBQ Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Wednesday, Aug. 12
Sloppy Joe Sandwich, Potato Chips, Tossed Salad, Dessert of the Day

Thursday, Aug. 13
Swiss Burger with Lettuce, Tomatoes and Onions, French Fries, Dessert of the Day

Friday, Aug. 14
Baked Fish, Onion Rings, Veggie of the Day, Dessert of the Day

Town Clerk lists early voting dates for State Primary

HARDWICK – Hardwick voters wishing to vote early, in-person for the Sept. 1, 2026 State Primary may do so at the Myron E. Richardson Municipal Office Building, 307 Main St., Gilbertville on the following dates and times: Saturday, Aug. 22 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. which is also

the last day to register to vote for the State Primary; Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 25 and 26 from 3-7 p.m.

Those wishing to vote by mail must have their application, or intention filed with the Town Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 25.

ACCURACY WATCH

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to pouimett@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069.

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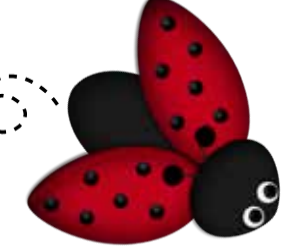
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viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters By Russell Gloor

When should my wife file for spouse benefits?

Dear Rusty:
My wife is 66 (born February 1960) and started taking Social Security retirement benefits just over one year ago at age 65.
She was a stay-at-home Mom for most of her adult life. I turned 62 this past March and received my first SS payment recently for a May 2026 start. We are scheduled to meet with SSA in late July to initiate spousal benefits because my wife's current benefits are less than 50% of mine.
We also have an adult disabled son, who receives Supplemental Security Income and Social Security benefits (this split in benefit sources happened after my wife filed - that whole process was confusing and we don't understand it).
My question relates to spousal benefits (I was a career finance person but don't completely understand these rules). We were going to file in July but is there any benefit to waiting until she turns 67? And will her 50% benefit be 50% of my lower benefit due to my filing at 62 or is that based on another amount?
Signed: Confused Finance Guy

Dear Confused:
First, be aware that your wife's spousal benefit will be based on her age when she claims it, and half of your Full Retirement Age, (although you claimed at 62, her benefit as your spouse will still be based on your FRA entitlement).
Because she claimed her SS retirement at 65, your wife will not get 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get her own reduced SS retirement benefit (which was reduced by about 13% from her FRA entitlement) plus a "spousal boost." The amount of that "boost" will be the difference between her own FRA entitlement and half of your FRA entitlement, but that boost amount will also be reduced because she will be claiming in July before her FRA.
Your wife will reach her FRA in February 2027, so by claiming her spousal boost in July her boost amount will be reduced by about 5% and the "boost" will be added to her already reduced SS retirement about. The result will be your wife's benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. And, FYI, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit, she will not be able to defer claiming it.
As your son is now collecting SS benefits based on your wife's personal SS record, you should ask Social Security to switch him over to payments based on your record because you have

the higher SS benefit.
FYI, because your son is now receiving Supplemental Security Income, the SS disability benefit he receives will offset by his SSI benefit, and the payment amount will consist of two sources - SSI and SSDI. Nevertheless, he cannot get more than 50% of your SS retirement amount and will likely be affected by the Family Maximum, which may further reduce his SSDI entitlement.
Your wife's benefit as your spouse will also be affected by the "Family Maximum," which limits how much can be paid on any one person's SS record (on your SS record).
That also means that your wife will not get a full 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get less because the family maximum limits how much all your dependents can receive to somewhere between 50% and 88% of your FRA benefit amount (after subtracting your own SS entitlement).
That also means that your son's SS payment, as well as your wife's SS payment as your spouse, will be reduced to less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. SSA will be able to guide you through the Family Maximum calculations for both your son and your wife when you meet.
To recap all of this: a) your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit; she cannot delay until her FRA. b) her amount as your spouse will be less than 50% of your SS FRA entitlement. And c) both your wife's and your son's SS benefit will likely be also affected by the Family Maximum and, thus, be less than half of your FRA entitlement.
Nevertheless, it was likely the right decision to claim as you have, considering that your son and wife have been receiving SS benefits for some time now, and both will continue to receive more as your dependents.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Privet pruning leads to instruction

Every year when we head off to the Cape, the "yard" talk becomes privets, and bunnies, but that is a whole other column.
When we visited in June, the privets where we stay had been cut way back in an effort to reduce height and width. This trip, I noticed those cuts had grown back nicely, achieving the desired results.
Read on while we revisit a column from the archives on pruning hedges.
A living hedge offers multi-seasonal interest. A number of shrubs suited for hedges flower or have appealing fall leaf color.
Others are evergreen and fulfill the "need for green" even in the offseason.
Some make great homes for wildlife, and others are the perfect backdrop for our holiday decorations.
Whatever the case, a hedge doesn't have to be old and overgrown to require your attention. Perhaps it is a little misshapen, or too tall and gangly. Maybe it has lots of dead wood.
Anyway, there is no time like the present to get out the loppers and hand clippers and do some pruning.

Old and overgrown
Hedges that fall into this category should be rejuvenated over the course of three years. The general rule of thumb is to remove no more than one-third of a shrub's mass at one time.
Working from the interior of each plant, cut out the oldest stems first to ground level. Fresh new growth will fill in the gaps.
Repeat in years two and three, until all the old wood

has been pruned away. If you prune more drastically than recommended, there will be less leaf power for photosynthesis, and vigor may be reduced; curb your impatience and stick to the three year rule.

learned.
Cut deep into the plant to bring down its height, then prune the sides of the shrub to outward facing buds to encourage a wider hedge.
This technique works especially well with hedges comprised of Rose of Sharon.

Lots of dead wood
The quickest way to prune a hedge has always been to employ shears or electric trimmers and simply remove new growth each season.
Unfortunately this method makes for lots of green leaves at the plant's tips but for very little on the interior of the shrub.

If you should decide you want to reduce the overall size of the hedge you will be in for trouble - all that will be visible is dead wood. Start making "windows" now by cutting out large stems back to main branches.
Light will penetrate inside the plant spawning lots of fresh green growth. Eventually you will be able to cut the hedge back to that point. The three year, one-third rule that I spoke of earlier should apply here as well.
Boxwood and yews benefit from this type of rejuvenation.
Kudos to the privet pruner; you did well!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



your health

By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN Guest Column

The gland guys don't want to talk about

For something the size of a walnut, the prostate looms large in men's imaginations and concerns as they age. That said, a recently published report said only about 6% of men

talk to their doctors about prostate cancer screening.
Now, obviously, I'm not a guy so I have no personal experience. But 40% of men who were surveyed in 2025 said they'd rather stew in traffic or watch their favorite sports team lose than talk about prostate health with their doctors, even though about one in eight men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime.

Some doctors feel that discussions regarding urinary symptoms and sexual health are very personal in nature and can sometimes make patients feel self-conscious.
So, let's demystify this little troublemaker and see if we can encourage greater awareness and conversation.

Where it is and what it does
The prostate is tucked below the bladder and is involved in urinary and sexual health. It adds fluid to semen and helps muscle it out of the urethra. It weighs about an ounce, and, though it starts out small, it tends to get larger as a man ages. This condition is called BPH, benign prostatic hyperplasia, which is believed to be brought on by hormonal changes.
The urinary symptoms that come with BPH are

Please see **HEALTH**, page 13

WARE RIVER NEWS

We Want to Hear From You

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OPINION POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and "Your Turn" guest column between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Send opinions to: Ware River News Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to: pouimette@turley.com

The deadline for submissions is Monday at noon.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Note: Statements or allegations made during the public comment periods of municipal meetings are those of individuals and do not reflect the official views or positions of the public body, municipality, or this newspaper. Comments that are made are not checked for accuracy.

TALENTS OF ALL AGES at Workshop13



Turley Photos by Ryan Drago
Michael performed on the guitar.



Ayla, age 5, sang a song during the Where's the Talent, talent show at Workshop13.



Violet presented a poetry reading during the talent show.



Brantley is shown during his dance performance to the song "They Don't Care About Us" by Michael Jackson.



Kai Menard performed "The Ballad of Jane Doe" from the musical, "Ride the Cyclone".



Doc Arsenault performed a cover of the song "Wicked Game" on the guitar.

Community members take skills to the stage

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

WARE – Workshop13 hosted the Where's the Talent, talent show last Friday evening at the Grand Hall.

The audience witnessed over 20 performances across several age groups; kids 10 and under, 11-18, and adults 18 and over. Serving as the master of ceremonies for the talent show was Kevin Casey from The Valley's Classic Hits 97.7 FM/1250 AM.

The performers signed up into three categories, with three judges determining the winner of each category. The Where's the Talent, talent show was part of the weeklong celebration for the town's USA 250th celebration.

Serving as the judges were Nicole Croteau, the chair of the Ware 250th Committee, musician Richard Eichacker and musician Army Spielberg. All three judges were thrilled to witness the talent about to take the stage at Workshop13's Grand Hall.

Prizes were awarded to the winners of each category.

Brian Jyringi of the Workshop13 Board of Directors was the sound engineer for the talent show. The stage was set for all the performers who were ready to share their talents.

The first group of performers were the talents aged

10 and under. A total of three performers represented this category.

The show began with Ayla, 5, singing "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star".

This followed by a dance performance by Brantley, who chose to dance to the song "They Don't Care About Us" by Michael Jackson. Brantley showed off his moves like the late great King of Pop.

The final performance in this category was by Vivian who sang the famous song from "Toy Story", "You've Got a Friend in Me".

All three performers got a standing ovation, and the judges had a tough decision to make.

After some discussions, the judges declared Vivian as the winner in the 10 and under category. Vivian was excited, celebrating with her friends and family.

The next group was the youth group ages 11-18.

One of the performers was Kai Menard, a freshman at Quaboag Regional Middle High School in Warren. This was Kai's first talent show appearance, and she performed "The Ballad of Jane Doe" from the musical "Ride the Cyclone".

There were talented teens singing, dancing and one performing a poetry reading. Bringing a patriotic theme to the talent show was a trio of hula hoop dancers performing to "Yankee Doodle".



Vivian was the winner of the age 10 and under category at the Where's the Talent, talent show.

There were prizes for two performers in the 11-18 category. Second place went to the dance performance by Hadleigh and first place went to Menard.

The adult category was next and featured a lot of talented musicians and singers. Doc Arsenault is a guitarist and performed a cover of the popular Chris Isaak song, "Wicked Game".

Several adults came up and performed their own original songs. The judges had their work cut out for them in all three categories, but every performer had a great time being able to perform on stage at Workshop13.

John Gerard was named the first place winner in the adult category and Lexi Watts, second place.

Experience the arts at Workshop13, located at 13 Church St. More information can be found at workshop13.org.



Shown from left are Kevin Casey, serving as the talent show's emcee, and talent show judges Nicole Croteau, Richard Eichacker and Army Spielberg.



Ware Lions Club hosts Concerts in the Park

WARE – The Ware Lions Club presents Concerts in the Park on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in Grenville Park, 73 Church St.

Admission to concerts is free and concerts are weather dependent.

Concert dates include Aug. 6, Woodshed; and Aug. 13, Charlie Lask and Forever Diamond with special guest Irv Lewis. Please note the Aug. 13 concert was rescheduled from July 30 due to inclement weather.

During each concert, the Ware Lions will have a

concession stand selling hot dogs, chips, popcorn and beverages. Raffle tickets for prizes will also be available.

This year's raffle includes a chance to win a \$300 gasoline gift card to Brookside Mart on West Street. Tickets are \$10 each and available at Thursday night concerts, from any Ware Lions Club member, or at Nat Falk Men's Clothing or St. Germain Insurance.

The gasoline gift card winning ticket will be drawn on Thursday, Aug. 13. Proceeds from this raffle go to Lion's charities.

Annual diaper drive benefits Jubilee Ministries

WARE – The annual diaper drive by the United Way Diaper Bank and its 14 partner organizations serving families across the region has begun.

Trinity Episcopal Church will be collecting donations at a drop box located at the service desk in Walmart, 352 Palmer Road. Donations will be accepted through the month of August and all donations will benefit the Jubilee Ministries.

About 40% of American families with small children struggle to buy diapers.

The UWFH Diaper Bank and its partners distribute up to 20,000 diapers and pull-ups a month to help children stay dry, healthy and in important child care and school programs each day.

For more information about the UWFH Diaper Bank's annual diaper drive, visit www.uw-fh.org.

Vendors wanted for Flea Market on the common

WEST BROOKFIELD – The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, 36 North Main St., has been hosting their Flea Market on the town common for more than 50 years.

This year the Flea Market will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (vendor check-in 6:30-8:30 a.m.). Sellers of all kinds are welcome – flea folk, antique dealers, crafters, product vendors and those emptying out basements and attics.

No food vendors, please.

Spaces are available for \$40 for a 20 x 20 grassy spot. Vendors must bring their own tables and tents.

The church will sponsor a food tent with grilled food, cold drinks and sweet treats. Email to fcccofwbfleamarket@gmail.com for an application or call Karen at 508-801-7692.

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Selectboard Chair Josh Kusnierz walked in the parade alongside Director of Rural Affairs, Anne Gobi.



Cluett's had several trucks featured in the parade.



David Nicoson drove the AMVETS vehicle.



Ware Firefighter/EMT Eric Allard drove a firetruck in the parade.



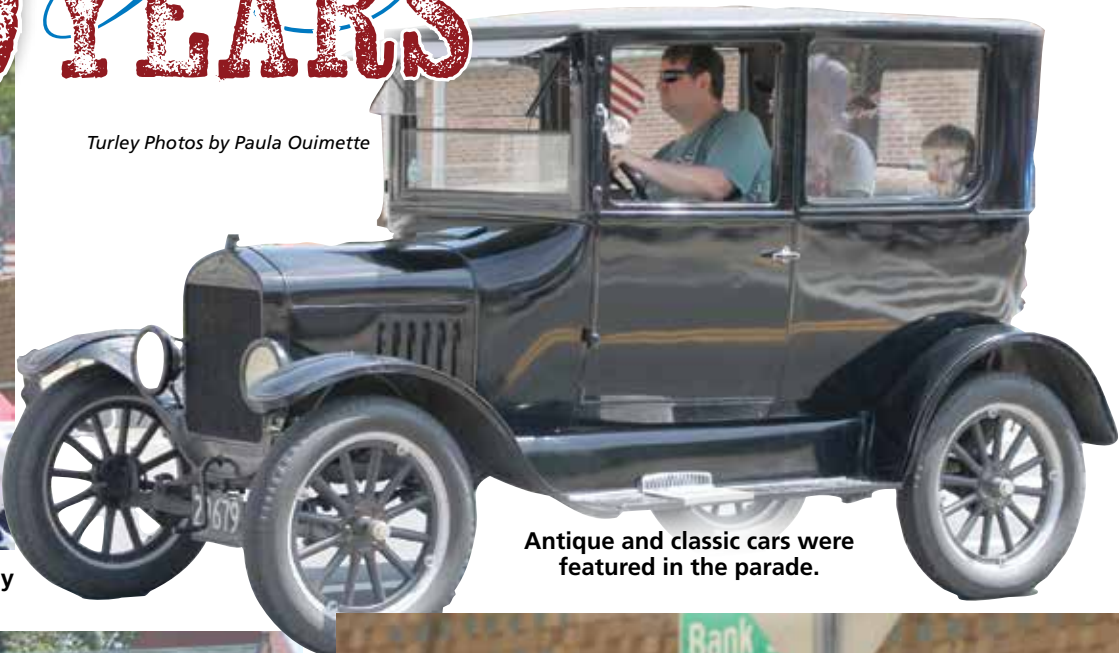
Selectboard members Valerie Granger, Ken Willette and Steven Hawk joined in the parade.

Celebrating
250 YEARS

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette



Michael Letendre of the Ware Knights of Columbus and his sons threw candy from the back of a float.



Antique and classic cars were featured in the parade.



The Ware Veterans Council provided the honor guard.



Dance Unlimited students and teachers also handed out colorful necklaces.



The Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc. rode in a wagon pulled by Barry Roberts' horses from Muddy Brook Farm in Amherst. Roberts' team is well-known for pulling the wagon and sleigh at the Salem Cross Inn in West Brookfield.



Trucordia/Moulton Insurance Agency employees joined in the parade.



The Friends of the Ware Town Hall rode in style



A young member of the Pioneer Valley Environmental team waved from the cab of the company's truck.



Pennington Painting pulled a float for the Ware Business & Civic Association and Beyond with a giant patriotic birthday cake. The float featured the names of the local business sponsors.



Clayton Sydla and Jim Phillip sit in one of the Quabbin Fishermen's Association boats.



Athletes and coaches from Ware Youth Football & Cheerleading walked in the parade.



Jeannie Odiorne drove a truck decorated for the U.S. 250th.



Candy was tossed from the Ware TRIAD float.



Fourth Degree Master Stanley Ciukaj and the Massachusetts Knights of Columbus walked in the parade.



Dance Unlimited students passed out candy to parade spectators.



Bagpipers from the John Boyle O'Reilly Club performed during the parade.



The mounted unit from the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office rode in the parade.



Mandie Burns handed out candy to parade spectators.



Stash Wroblecki drove a classic car for the Ware Lions Club.



Members of the Ware Grange carried a banner and had a float dedicated to agriculture.



Bubba the Clown juggled while riding a tricycle.



The Three Rivers Fire Department drove this 1933 antique fire truck in the parade.



Subway team members and mascot Subman celebrated the nation's 250th anniversary.



Members of the Ware Republican Town Committee carried a banner in the parade.



Dance Unlimited had a float that was "out of this world."



Bagpipers from the Melha Shriners Highlanders performed during the parade.



This lucky Music Bingo winner took home a gift basket with patriotic themed treats.



Bob Gerulaitis won a \$25 gift card to It's Wine O'clock.



Peggy Trim won the surprise patriotic boxes with a value of \$40 at the Family Game Night with Music Bingo by Wise Guys Trivia held at the Ware Senior Center, sponsored by the town's 250th U.S. Celebration Committee with support from The Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc.

Bingo!

Submitted Photos



It was a full house at the Ware Senior Center for Music Bingo at Family Game Night.



The town's 250th U.S. Celebration Committee are shown with President of The Friends of Ware Seniors, Inc., Sue LaBarge. From left are Bob Krasnecky, Valerie Granger, Claudia Kadra, Nicole Croteau, LaBarge and Frank Bateman.

WARE FIREWORKS

Spectacular

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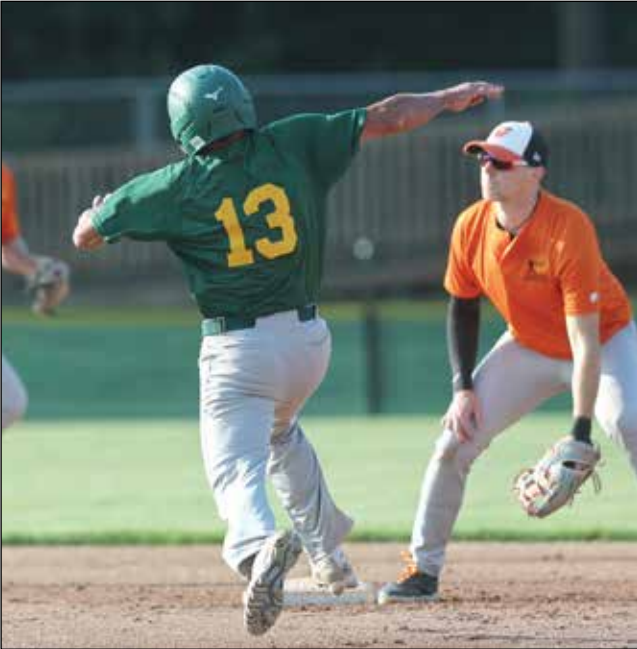
SPORTS

Field hockey summer campaign continues



Alexis Gauthier gets ready to send the ball up the field. Josie Hancock looks to drag the ball toward the goal. Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

SOUTH HADLEY – The summer field hockey program for high school students, hosted by South Hadley High School, continued last Wednesday with multiple teams in action for short games. Quaboag has been a regular participant in the summer league for the past few years.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Ken Schubert heads into second base.

Valley Wheel regular season concludes

WILBRAHAM – The regular season has concluded for the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, one of several adult baseball leagues that plays in the region. This year, with play concluding this past Sunday, the Angels were able to finish the regular season with the top record, going 11-4. The Angels matched the Twins with the same record, but won two out of three head-to-head for the tiebreaker advantage in the playoffs. The Orioles finished third and the Cubs overcame the A's by tiebreaker for the final of four playoff spots. The semifinals for the league are set for this Sunday at Spec Pond in Wilbraham. In the first matchup, the No. 2 Twins host the No. 3 Orioles at 2:30 p.m. Then, the top-seeded Angels face No. 4 Cubs at 6 p.m. The championship game will be held on Sunday, Aug. 16 at Spec Pond at 3 p.m.



Submitted photos Coach Alan Crane gathers his team for a time out during a summer league win over Nashoba securing his Quabbin Cagers first place finish. Quabbin center Matt Wade delivers the opening tap to his teammate in an opening win over Old Colony of Rochester.

Quabbin boys basketball takes summer action to Fitchburg

FITCHBURG – With the Auburn Summer Basketball League shut down for this year, Quabbin has been participating in a summer league held at GameOn in Fitchburg. Quabbin is currently 5-0 heading into the playoffs.



LEFT: Junior guard Aiden Crane strips the ball away from a Fitchburg player.



Sam Ribeiro takes a swing.

CF Arbor reaches semifinals

SOUTH HADLEY – In last week's PVSSL summer playoffs, the CF Arbor Men's soccer team, which was the No. 4 seed in the playoffs, was able to advance into the semifinals and took on Mt. Carmel, which defeated CF Arbor by a score a 2-0, ending CF Arbor's chances of reaching the championship game this year. Mt. Carmel would capture this year's men's championship.



Landry Kwawu goes to meet up with a loose ball. Troy Remillard outplays an opponent for the ball. LEFT: Owen Dieterle heads up the field.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Ryan Sunshine socks a free kick away. LEFT: Tyler Lewis advances up the field.

sports

Blue Sox fall in Game 1 of first playoff series

SANFORD — The Valley Blue Sox (0-1 postseason) dropped Game 1 of their first-round NECBL play-off series against the Sanford Mainers (1-0 postseason), 5-2. This marks the first time that the Blue Sox have lost to the Mainers this season, as Valley won the two previous outings.

The first inning remained scoreless for both teams, but the Mainers got themselves on the board in the second. Nater Watcher (UConn) hit a 2-run home run out to left field with Steven Kraus (Binghamton) on base to give Sanford an early 2-0 lead.

Valley, however, was able to tie the game back up shortly in the fourth after Mainers' pitcher Andrew Middleton (Maryland) had a lackluster inning, allowing 2 runs and 3 hits.

Nick Spaventa (UPenn) got the first run to score when he singled to the short-stop, who made an error, which allowed Esteban Garcia (Boston College) to score and Spaventa to advance to second.

Anthony Tirado (Penn State) then hit a sacrifice fly to right-center, letting Spaventa make his way around the bases to tie the game 2-2.

While it seemed like it was panning out to be a

close game, Sanford broke things open in the sixth. Kraus was up to bat with the bases loaded when he singled to third base, sending Albert De La Rosa (Maine) and Brian Connolly (Rhode Island) home to score, breaking the tie 4-2.

The Blue Sox loaded up the bases once again for Sanford, but it was Valley who sent the run home for the Mainers when Michael Goodman (UMass) hit Brennan Staublely (Elon) with a pitch, forcing in the fifth tally for the Mainers.

While the Blue Sox still had plenty of time to mount an offense, the Mainers' pitching staff locked it down, retiring batters in order over the final three innings.

"You got to tip your cap when [Sanford's pitching] does their job," said head coach John Raiola postgame. "We had some tough at-bats; it's tough to string a bunch of hits together against guys like that."

Though it was not the result the Blue Sox were looking for, Raiola still has full confidence in his team's ability to win Game 2.

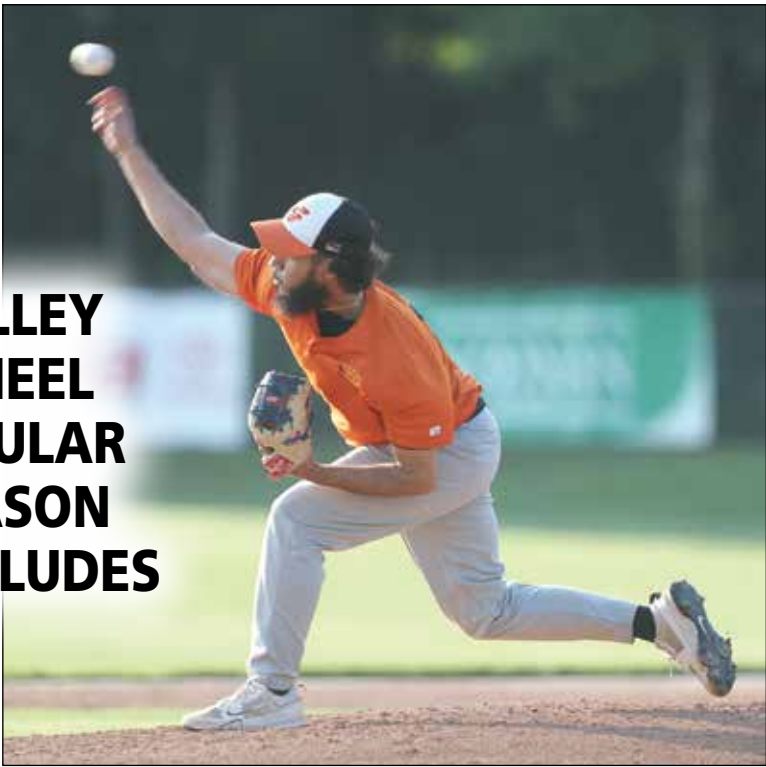
"The fun thing about getting to this time of the year [is] it truly can be any random person who puts one good swing on a ball that changes the game."



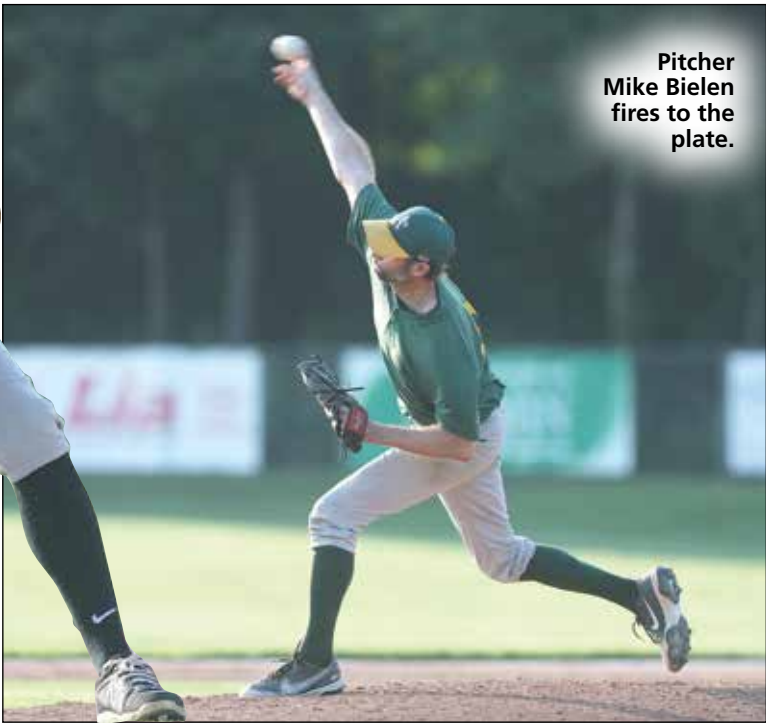
Nate Woodland makes a catch for the A's during regular season action in the Valley Wheel league.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Adam Strain fields a grounder.



Mike Burgos pitches in a game for the Orioles on July 26.



Pitcher Mike Bielen fires to the plate.

T-Birds pick up new goalies coach

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds announced today that the club has hired Brandon Wildung as Goaltending Coach.

Wildung, 32, joins the T-Birds and replaces Dan Stewart, who was appointed Goaltending Coach by the New Jersey Devils earlier this month. Wildung most



recently served as Associate Head Coach for the USHL's Sioux Falls Stampede from 2024-26, where he helped the Stampede to a Clark Cup championship this past season.

Prior to his coaching career, the Nassau, Minn. native stood between the pipes for four NCAA sea-

sons with Mercyhurst University from 2014 to 2018 before skating in seven pro games with the ECHL's Utah Grizzlies and Manchester Monarchs. Wildung began his junior coaching career as an assistant coach with the Stampede in 2022-23, then served as an assistant coach in 2023-24 for Augustana University, the program's first season as an NCAA Division I school.

Emerling picks up win at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, NH – If there's any end in sight to Patrick Emerling's current dominance of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, it wasn't visible Saturday, July 25 at Monadnock Speedway. The Orchard Park, NY speedster won the fifth annual JDV Productions Duel At The Dog energized by USNE Power Modified main event at the storied high-banked oval, using his third consecutive Tour victory to stay atop the points parade and, as an added bonus, picked up an additional \$5,000 check for topping the three-race JDV Whelen Midsummer Championship.

And he did it with relative ease. Beating Tyler Rypkema to the checkers by 2.321 seconds, Emerling now has 13 Whelen Modified Tour victories to his credit, two of them scored at Monadnock.

With a huge crowd on hand for the JDV Duel event, other winners Saturday at the fast quarter-mile included Granite State Pro Stock Series rocketman DJ Shaw, and third-year Pro Truck Challenge hot shoe Jason Paquette, who scored his first career Pro Truck victory in front of the thundering Duel at The Dog crowd.

Matt Hirschman set fast time in Whelen Modified Tour qualifying, touring the high banks in 11.836 seconds. The Keystone State hot shoe was one of ten drivers in the 21-car field to turn sub-12 second laps. It was the third week in a row that Hirschman had set fast time but a top-ten redraw Saturday would place him ninth on the starting grid for the night's 200-lap main event.

Jon McKennedy, a winner of many events at Monadnock over the years,

started on the pole, with defending Tour Champion Austin Beers at his side. At their bumpers, were six-time Champion Doug Coby and Emerling. McKennedy quickly took charge.

With Coby, Beers, and Ronnie Williams riding in his shadow, McKennedy would lead the first 35 laps. Emerling, content to survey the task before him, moved up to third on lap 18.

The first lead change occurred on lap 37, with Beers low-lining to the front. Two circuits later, his mirror was filled by Emerling. He would take charge on a lap 86 restart and never look back. Beers would stay right with him on restarts, racing wheel-to-wheel with the eventual race winner, but each time Emerling would again best him and pull away.

Tyler Rypkema, aboard the fabled Boehler Old Blue, blasted into second on lap 137, actually inching ahead of Emerling to lead lap 148 by inches, but two go-rounds later, the Empire State star was back in front to stay. Rypkema's strong second-place performance was his third Whelen Modified Tour runner-up finish of the summer.

Beers held strong to earn the third-place hardware, followed by 15-year-old rookie sensation Paulie Hartwig III and Tommy Catalano.

Positions six through ten went to Teddy Hodgdon, Eric Goodale, McKennedy, Coby, and Stephen Kopcik. Hirschman, after his promising start, finished 12th on the night.

Second generation superstar DJ Shaw did what's become expected of him in big northeast Pro Stock events Saturday. The Center

Conway, NH ace patiently worked his way to the front in the 100-lap Granite State Pro Stock Series main event, pounced at the first opportunity, and then sped off to victory.

Teen star Cole Robie – the series' defending champion and defending Duel at the Dog Champion – set fast time in Pro Stock qualifying Saturday with a lap of 12.136 seconds, but a redraw put Tom Carey III and Cory Casagrande up front as the race went green.

Carey, with Casagrande glued to his bumper, had the best seat in the house for the first 72 circuits, but Shaw – from row three – was methodically working his way to the front. Taking third from points leader Jeremy Sorel on lap 11, he was content to sit there until low-lining into turn three 40 laps later to swipe second from Casagrande.

With the same move on lap 73, Shaw was at the front and off to the races, Casagrande kept it close, but there was no stopping Shaw once he was in front. Saturday's big Duel At The Dog score was his second GSPSS victory of the summer.

With Casagrande holding strong for a close second, Carey's strong performance brought him home third. Hudson, NH's Joey Pole was fourth under the checkers, and Robie completed the top five.

Pro Truck Challenge driver Jason Paquette couldn't have picked a better day to earn his first win. Racing in front of the huge Duel crowd, the Scotland, CT hot shoe took the lead from pole starter Nate Smith on lap 26 and then held ageless wonder Duane Noll at his bumper the rest of the way.

With Noll finishing glued to the winner's bumper, Tyler Chapman was third on the day. Four-time winner and series points leader Randy Burr got as high as third before settling for fourth, and Adrien Paradis was fifth in the 16-truck field.

School Supply List

Suggested School Supply Donations:

- Box of Colored Pencils
- Plastic Pencil Box (Unlabeled)
- Erasers (Not Pencil Top)
- Thin Set of Crayola Markers
- Thick Set of Crayola Markers
- Scotch Tape
- Pack of Post-It Notes
- Box of 24 Crayons (No Larger)
- Colored Pencils
- Children's Scissors
- Elmer's Glue Sticks
- Expo Markers
- Single Subject Notebooks (Any Color)
- Erasers (Pencil Top Style)
- Lots of Pencils (Ideally Ticonderoga)
- Pencil Case/Box/Bag
- Cm/Inch Ruler
- Hand-Held Pencil Sharpener

Items For Sharing With The Class:

- Lysol/Clorox Wipes
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer
- Expo Markers
- Paper Towels

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admin@monsontogether.com

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The deadline for submissions for this sports section is the Monday before publication by noon.

To send in information, contact Sports Editor at 413-283-8393, send an e-mail to sports@turley.com or send it through the mail to: Turley Publications c/o Sports Editor, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069

BOH holds public hearing Richardson Street property

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

WARREN – The Board of Health held a public hearing last Wednesday for a property at 64 Richardson St.

According to regional health inspector Tessa Obuchowski, there have been five complaints since December 2025 regarding a resident living in a camper, waste disposal and noise complaints.

At the July 29 hearing, Obuchowski said the health inspectors met with the owner, who according to the Worcester District Registry of Deeds is Eric Joel Soto, on July 21. Obuchowski said there was no sewer, water or electricity at the residence, so an order to correct along with a cease and desist were issued.

According to Obuchowski, some of the violations include temporary housing, which is not allowed without approval from the Board of Health, along with there being no source of potable water with sufficient pressure. She said the sewer needs to be sanitary and connected to a public or on site wastewater facility, and there was temporary wiring, which is not to be used by an owner or occupant.

Soto, the property owner, said the property does have water, but it is not hooked up to the town, and he does his sewer himself, traveling to Millbury. He said there is a battery system on site, so he does not need electricity.

Soto said he is currently cleaning up the property, and does not know when construction of a home will start, but he does not plan on staying in the camper forever.

Additionally, Soto said he had left the property between January and July 4, but his son who lives nearby inspected the area on the weekends. Soto said he was told to file for temporary housing if he was going to be there for more than 90 days, but as of the meeting date, said he was there less than 30, and the noise could be coming from tree work or cleaning of the property.

Soto said he tried to call the Water and Sewer departments, but were told they had to hire a contractor to replace the lines.

Public comment

Several residents of Richardson Street utilized public comment to raise their

concerns about the property, including Steven Sutter. He questioned if there is camping allowed in the neighborhood, and also said he thinks there have been occupants there longer than since July 4.

Sutter said the property looks “terrible,” and he is worried for public health and depreciation of his property.

“Who’s policing him?” Sutter asked.

He also asked why Soto could not move his camper to a designated campground for them that have facilities.

Another abutter, Diane Banfield, said she wants to know if waste is being taken from the property, and if there is documentation of it. Banfield said she wanted to make sure the land is not getting contaminated.

Abutter David Baxter said he was happy to see a new owner to add to the tax base, but he does not see that happening. Baxter said the town is losing revenue on water and sewer services, and it is not right to have a trailer there.

He said it looked like people had been living there since the fall.

“Where’s the sewage going?” he asked.

Abutter Cynthia Baxter said she has smelled chemicals in the air, and thinks it’s from RV septic. She asked if it was made clear to Soto that he could not live in the trailer long-term, and also said she did not think there were only people there after July 4. Another resident asked if he had obtained building or occupancy permits, or submitted plans to build.

Board deliberation

Board of Health Chair Daniel Thibodeau said the decision is straightforward, since there is no water and sewer. He said the town cannot allow this long-term.

He said there was no occupancy in place, and sewer hauling needs to be licensed. Thibodeau said the health code is clear on the requirements, and they have not been met at the property.

The board voted to grant a seven day extension for the cease and desist, to allow the homeowner to come up with arrangements to meet requirements and cease living at the property, with a \$100 per day fine for any day living at the property following the seven days.

CDAC discuss grants, projects

By Zacharias Fragkiadakis
Staff Writer
zachf@turley.com

WARREN – The Community Development Advisory Committee met last Wednesday to hear updates from both Town Administrator James Ferrera and Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission representative John O’Leary on grants and projects happening in town.

The first update was for the Community One Stop for Growth program grant, which focused on Pulaski Street, according to Ferrera. He said there was a design study finished, and there are cost estimates of the project ranging from \$1.7-1.8 million. Ferrera said the cost may be able to be paid off from a combination of grants like the Community One Stop or Community Development Block Grant or be done in phases.

Ferrera then gave an update on the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant, saying the fiscal year 2026 project was successful, and gave the town good

information on flooding and culverts, along with focus areas.

Ferrera said the town will focus on the downtown culvert as the first priority and an area crossing Sullivan Brook on Old West Brookfield Road as the number two priority.

Ferrera said the Sullivan Brook crossing would be a good application because there is a lot of water runoff for a small culvert, it’s a route to school, there is a main gas line there and there was a flood in 2021.

Next, Ferrera gave an update on the green communities grant, saying a weatherization project at the Warren Community Elementary School was substantially complete, and the town is on track to apply for another in the fall, with a potential project being heat pumps and mini splits for the Shepard Municipal Building.

O’Leary then gave an update on the stair project for the businesses on Main Street, saying the contractor did well, and the project is in good shape. He said there is an extra \$70,000, and they

are looking for a cost estimate for the remaining two sets of stairs on that strip.

There was a discussion on a possible outreach or celebration event for the businesses impacted by the stair project since their businesses had disruptions during it.

Ferrera said the honor roll sign was re-done, so there could be the possibility of merging both of those achievements into one celebration. Members of the committee agreed that a Saturday in September may be the best time for it.

Giving an update on CDBG grants, O’Leary said for the FY 24 grant, there is a contractor imminent for the Central and River Street projects, including water improvements and some surface level improvements like sidewalks on River Street. He said the plan will be presented to the Board of Selectmen. He said the hope is for work to start by mid August.

O’Leary also said a design for Cutter Park improvements have recently been completed and submitted.

O’Leary said the FY 25

grant includes comprehensive water, drainage and surface improvements for Hillside Avenue, but the lowest bidder, Ludlow Construction’s mobilization costs exceeded the allowable amount under the contract, so the bid will have to be re-done, but he said substantial completion may be possible by the end of this year.

He said requests for qualifications for the Summer Street and Washington Street projects will be due on Aug. 7.

O’Leary also went over some possible projects to include on an FY 27 application, including phase 2 for the Central Street project, since the state likes to see projects finish.

He said there is a chance to do work on Cottage Street, and an income survey may be coming out, as CDBG grants are only awarded to places where at least 51% of residents are low to moderate income households.

Members of the committee said Cottage Street needs water line work.

The CDAC will meet next on Aug. 26.

Summer Reading finale is this Saturday

WARREN – The Warren Public Library will hold its Summer Reading finale Dinosaur Party on Saturday, Aug. 8 at 11 a.m. on the town comm.

All are welcome to celebrate the finale of Summer Reading with a prehistoric party. Stomp on down to the Farmers Market from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for an adventure-filled day featuring hands-on activity stations like giant bubbles, a dinosaur dig, slime making and a dino photo booth.

Pizza will be provided by George’s Pizza, located in downtown Warren, as well as snacks and drinks, courtesy of Warren One Stop Market.

One lucky Summer Reading participant will receive the grand prize of tickets to the Big E.

There will be raffles for parents as well (children can’t participate in Summer Reading without your help) sponsored by Mason’s Grille, The Lost Arts, Quaboag Book Shop, and Hair Studio and Day Spa.

This event is free fun for all ages. No registration required.



The Quabbin Community Band performed on the Barre common for “Movie Night.”

Summer concert tradition continues



Turley Photos by Camren Robertson
An audience member clapped after the band performed.

BARRE – The Quabbin Community Band has continued its longtime tradition of performing Sunday concerts on the common, both in Barre and at Nornay Park in South Barre.

This is the 53rd season for the band, which is led by Music Director Margaret Reidy.

All summer concerts begin at 6 p.m. In case of rain on any Sunday evening, the concerts are moved indoors to the Barre Town Hall, Exchange Street.

The next concert will be held on Sunday, Aug. 9, on the Barre common for the “Barre ‘On Parade’” alumni event (this concert starts at 5 p.m.).

The final concert of the season will be held on Sunday, Aug. 16, Barre common, for “Dixieland Night.”

School supply drive benefits local schools

WARE – The Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce and the Ware Business & Civic and Beyond organizations are hosting a school supply collection drive to benefit local schools.

The school supply collection drive runs though Friday, Aug. 21.

Participating drop off locations are found at Cedarbrook Village, Cluett’s Appliance Center, Dhillion Dentistry, Hakim Medical Center, Hanna’s on Main, Monson Savings Bank, Moulton Insurance Agency, Ware Town Hall and Westfield Savings Bank in Ware, Monson Savings Bank, The Better Bean and TJ’s Tavern in Monson, and Palmer Town Hall, Palmer Senior Center, Palmer Library, J. Stolar Insurance Agency, Phriends Coffee, Mustang Seats, Just a Little Craft Store and Nick’s Sporting Goods in Palmer.

Sidewalk SALE!

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FAMOUS-MAKER OVER-THE-STOVE MICROWAVE REG. \$249.99 \$229.99	LG WASHER OR DRYER Front Load - REG. \$1599.99 \$1,399.99	MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$699.99 \$529.99	FRIGIDAIRE SIDE BY SIDE REG. \$1,499.99 \$1199.99

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public safety

Ware man found guilty following trial

Sentencing scheduled for Aug. 19 in Northampton court

NORTHAMPTON – On Aug. 4, Hampshire Superior Court Judge Charles W. Groce III found Angel Ramos, 53, of Ware, guilty of 28 counts of rape and sexual abuse of a child following a four-day bench trial. Ramos was found guilty of the following offenses: Aggravated Rape of a Child (13 counts); Forcible Rape of a Child (three counts); Indecent Assault and Battery on a Child Under 14 (six counts); Aggravated Intimidation of a Witness (two counts); Posing or Exhibiting a Child in a State of Nudity; Trafficking of a Person Under 18 for Sexual Servitude; Open and Gross Lewdness; and Assault with Intent to Rape. The offenses occurred over the course of several years, between 2018 and 2024, and involved one minor child. Assistant District Attorneys Stephanie Jimenez and Jillian Parent prosecuted the case on behalf of the Commonwealth with sup-

port provided to the survivor by Family Service Advocate Julia Wallace. Ramos was represented by Attorney Bob Opsitnick of Chicopee. “This conviction reflects months of dedicated investigative work and a steadfast commitment to seeking justice for the survivor,” said Jimenez in a press release. “We are grateful to Detective Ryan Downing of the Ware Police Department, Trooper Geraldine Bresnahan of the Hampshire/Franklin State Police Detective Unit, and Child and Family Advocate Guadalupe Arevalo of the Children’s Advocacy Center of Hampshire County for their professionalism, com-

Ware Police Log

During the week of July 28-Aug. 4, the Ware Police Department responded to 17 miscellaneous calls, 27 administrative calls, 17 traffic violations, 12 emergency 911 calls, four harassments/stalks/threats, one trespass, 11 disturbances/nuisances, one safety hazard, six suspicious/wanted, two breaking and enterings, one structure fire, one fraud, one motor vehicle accident, seven animal calls and 21 motor vehicle stops in the town of Ware.

Tuesday, July 28
1:26 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Greenwich Road, Citation/Warning Issued
11:34 a.m. Fraud/Deception, Eagle Street, Advised
1:08 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Maple Court, Advised
1:19 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Otis Avenue, Could Not Locate
5:18 p.m. Safety Hazard, Greenwich Road, Taken/Referred to Other Agency
5:36 p.m. Assault, Hillside Village, Arrest
8:56 p.m. Breaking and Entering, Osborne Road, Unfounded
11:53 p.m. Trespass/Unwanted, Church Street, Services Rendered

Wednesday, July 29
12:13 a.m. Assault, Main Street, Report Made
2:47 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Street, Arrest Made
Arrest: Miranda Lemos, 34, Ware
WMS Warrant
5:40 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Street, Vehicle Towed
11:11 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
11:48 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, West Warren Road, Could Not Locate
1:19 p.m. Assist Other Agency, South Street, Services Rendered
2:45 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Buckley Court, Advised
7:04 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Eagle Street, Advised

Thursday, July 30
2:28 a.m. Suspicious Wanted, East Main Street, Advised
3:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Pleasant Street, Citation/Warning Issued
11:10 a.m. Well Being Urgent, Ragged Hill Road, Arrest Made
Arrest: Justin L. Eggleton, 40, Warren
OUI-Drugs; License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With, Subsequent Offense; Drug, Possess Class B
1:10 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Pulaski Street, Services Rendered
1:28 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Advised
2:26 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Canal Street, Services Rendered
4:10 p.m. Traffic Violation/Hazard, Belchertown Road, Arrest Made
Arrest: Miguel A. Colon, 29, Ware
Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; OUI-Liquor or .08%; Leave Scene of Property Damage
5:28 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, West Street, Unfounded

Editor’s Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court’s final disposition.

11:32 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Palmer Road, Advised

Friday, July 31
5:03 a.m. Structure Fire, West Street, Investigated
7 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Palmer Road, Citation/Warning Issued
6:45 p.m. Assault, Aspen Street, Could Not Locate
10:42 p.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, North Street, Services Rendered

Saturday, Aug. 1
12:22 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Greenwich Road, Could Not Locate
11:37 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Greenwich Road, Investigated
1:25 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Palmer Road, Could Not Locate
1:27 p.m. Assist Other Agency, South Street, Services Rendered
5:27 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Belchertown Road, Citation/Warning Issued
8:53 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Maple Avenue, Investigated

Sunday, Aug. 2
9:30 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, West Street, Services Rendered
10:09 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, West Street, Services Rendered
3:54 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Mountain View Drive, Could Not Locate
5:16 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Monson Turnpike Road, Services Rendered
11:27 p.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Sherwin Street, Could Not Locate

Monday, Aug. 3
5:15 a.m. Disturbance/Nuisance, Church Street, Advised
9:46 a.m. Motor Vehicle Crash, Palmer Road, Report Made
11:22 a.m. Harassment/Stalk/Threat, Dale Street, Advised
1:59 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, West Street, Assist Given
4:53 p.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Church Street, Dispatch Handled
6:22 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Pulaski Street, Unfounded
7:42 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Otis Avenue, Could Not Locate
10:10 p.m. Suspicious/Wanted, Palmer Road, Investigated

Tuesday, Aug. 4
6:45 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Otis Avenue, Assist Given
8:03 a.m. Abandoned 911 Call, Beaver Road, No Action Required

Hardwick Police Log

During the week of July 20-27, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 52 building/property checks, 33 directed/area patrols, 12 radar assignments, four traffic controls, 14 emergency 911 calls, seven citizen assists, four assist other agencies, one motor vehicle investigation, four investigations, one safety hazard, three complaints, one burglary, one motor vehicle accident, one animal call and eight motor vehicle stops in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, July 20
10:41 a.m. Welfare Check, High Street, Report Taken
11:54 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Barre Road, Transported to Hospital
2:29 p.m. Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled
4:22 p.m. Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
6:56 p.m. Assist Citizen, Pine Street, Officer Handled
9:54 p.m. Medical Emergency, Main Street, Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, July 21
1:19 a.m. 911 Medical

Emergency, Prospect Street, Transported to Hospital
8:20 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Hardwick Road, Transported to Hospital
9:11 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Voice Message Left
9:28 a.m. Assist Citizen, High Street, Officer Handled
10:10 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Referred to Other Agency
2:14 p.m. Welfare Check, Main Street, Spoken To
2:45 p.m. Investigation, High Street, Officer Handled
3:26 p.m. Assist Citizen, Main Street, Merge
6:51 p.m. 911 Misdial, Barre Road, Spoken To
8:48 p.m. Burglary (Breaking and Entering), High Street, Spoken To

Wednesday, July 22
4:54 a.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Old Petersham Road, Officer Handled
8:56 a.m. Safety Hazard, Barre Road, Referred to Other Agency
10:54 a.m. 911 Lockout, Bridge Street, Officer Handled
4:41 p.m. Assist Citizen, Church Lane, Services Rendered
6:50 p.m. Neighbor Dispute, Summit Road,

Spoken To
9:53 p.m. Motor Vehicle Investigation, Main Street, Investigated

Thursday, July 23
6:39 a.m. 911 Fire/Alarm, Jackson Road, Services Rendered
11:53 a.m. Parking Complaint, Main Street, Citation Issued
2:48 p.m. Welfare Check, Bridge Street, Officer Handled
4:56 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Officer Handled
10:02 p.m. Assist Citizen, Prospect Street, Merge

Friday, July 24
5:39 a.m. Medical Alarm, Prospect Street, Patient Refusal
12:17 p.m. Medical Emergency, Fiske Road, Officer Handled
11:50 p.m. 911 Motor Vehicle Crash, Cleveland Road, Vehicle Towed

Saturday, July 25
7:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Lower Road, Citation Issued
8:28 a.m. Investigation, Main Street, Transported to Hospital
9:37 a.m. Assist Citizen,

Prospect Street, Services Rendered
10:31 a.m. Parking Complaint, Barre Road, Officer Handled
2:14 p.m. Medical Alarm, Bridge Street, Negative Contact
2:53 p.m. Investigation, Out of Town, Officer Handled
3:34 p.m. Neighbor Dispute, Ridge Road, Officer Handled
4:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
4:34 p.m. Neighbor Dispute, Grove Street, Officer Handled
4:38 p.m. Neighbor Dispute, Grove Street, Merge
4:48 p.m. 911 Suspicious Activity, Hardwick Road, Spoken To
7:05 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Glastonbury, Connecticut, Spoken To
9:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Hardwick Road, Citation Issued

Sunday, July 26
4:58 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Main Street, Services Rendered
6:56 p.m. Assist Citizen, Jackson Road, Officer Handled

Warren Police Log

During the week of July 5-11, the Warren Police Department responded to 170 building/property checks, four community policings, nine emergency 911 calls, one scam call, two larceny/thefts, one property damage, one illegal dumping, one missing/lost person, two safety hazards, one vehicle fire, six complaints, two animal calls and 18 motor vehicle stops in the town of Warren.

Sunday, July 5
7:03 a.m. Suspicious Vehicle, Old Brook Road, Report Filed
11:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written

Warning
12:07 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
12:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
1:06 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, West Brookfield, Report Filed
2:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, South Street, Written Warning
4:34 p.m. Noise Complaint, Richardson Street, Unfounded
5:29 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Milton O. Fountain Way, Report Filed
5:29 p.m. Scam Calls, North Street, Information Given

6:21 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope, Pine Street, Transported to Hospital
7:06 p.m. Noise Complaint, Richardson Street, Investigated
10:13 p.m. Bleeding, Pleasant Street, Transported to Hospital

Monday, July 6
11:04 a.m. Property Damage, Keys Road, Report Filed
12:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Old West Warren Road, Criminal Complaint
1:55 p.m. Suspicious Activity, Winthrop Terrace, Officer/Chief Advised
2:38 p.m. Assist Other

Police Department, Quaboag Street, Report Filed
6:59 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Criminal Complaint

Tuesday, July 7
1:06 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, East Road, Negative Contact
6:04 a.m. Tree Incidents, Quaboag Street, Report Filed
10:57 a.m. Assist Other Police Department, East Road, Report Filed
12:01 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problem, School Street, Transported to Hospital

Please see **WARREN PD**, page 13

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USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST	\$2.89 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF RIB EYE CUT FREE	\$9.29 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN TENDERLOIN 10 LB. BAG	\$1.79 lb
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Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

Paige Memorial Library prepares for Hardwick Community Fair

HARDWICK – The fair-ies are coming to Hardwick, and the Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, is where to create fairy houses for the Hardwick Fair-y Village on Thursday, Aug. 6.

Call 413-477-6704 to tell library staff you are coming. Space is limited so appointments can cut down on waiting time.

Bring old jewelry, tiny figures and orphaned toys, etc. to make your creation personal and special. The library will provide the rest of the materials.

The Paige Memorial Library is where to bring entries for the Literary Competition. Find the entry form by visiting <https://www.hardwickfair.com/fair-forms>.

Entries can be poetry (free verse or rhyme), books (no longer than 20 pages: picture/comic/graphic art, computer generated and

hand-drawn), fiction, non-fiction (such as editorial, essay, school paper, scientific paper, biography, editorial, or personal perspective piece such as blog post or memoir excerpt) submitted by children up to 8 years old, youth ages 9-12, teens ages 13-16 and adult ages 17+.

Download the form, fill it out, deliver it to the Paige Memorial Library, or mail it to: Literary Competition, Paige Memorial Library, P.O. Box 413, Hardwick, MA 01037. All entries, mailed or delivered, must be received by 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6.

Please note this is a week earlier than fair weekend.

On Saturday, Aug. 15 come to the Hardwick Community Fair, the “Oldest Fair in the United States” since 1762. The Paige Memorial Library will be closed for borrowing but will open downstairs for the

Annual Book Sale.

From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. view the Hardwick Fair-y Village and visit with Ambrosia, the Hardwick Village Fairy. There will be glitter tattoos and face painting by Miss Elizabeth.

The Paige Library Summer Reading program, “Dig in and Read” offers activities, good books and prizes for adults and children who keep up with their reading. Come join the fun.

The theme encourages you to explore history, science, and culture, and to dig-in to dinosaurs, paleontology, archaeology, American history, plants, nature and gardening. Summer Reading ends with a fun filled “Celebrate the 250th” field day on Aug. 22.

For more information email paigelibrary.hardwick@gmail.com or call 413-477-6704.

HEALTH from page 4

unpleasant: frequent need to urinate, especially at night; an inability to empty the bladder; possible urinary tract infections. So even if the symptoms aren’t particularly bothersome, you should still mention them to your doctor and head off more serious complications.

What about prostate cancer?

Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in men, the first being skin cancer. As with most cancers, the earlier it’s detected the better the treatment outcomes. There’s a 97% survival rate, but treatments like surgery and radiation sometimes result in lifelong complications such as urinary incontinence and erectile dysfunction.

No wonder it’s something men don’t want to necessarily discuss. However, if you’re between the ages of 55 or 69, have a family history of prostate cancer or are African American, it’s wise to at least talk to your doctor about it or not brush it off if the doctor brings it up.

Why? Because in its later stages, the cancer can spread to the bones and lymph nodes. At that point, treatment focuses on managing symptoms and maintaining quality of life rather than attempting to cure the disease.

How it’s detected

Getting screened and

treated for prostate cancer involves highly individualized decisions, ones that should be made in conjunction with a urologist rather than a family practitioner. A private patient advocate with medical expertise can help with such decisions because prostate cancer screening is not universally recommended.

The standard blood test, which looks for levels of prostate-specific antigen (PSA), is not a perfect indicator of cancer and can lead to unnecessary procedures, such as biopsies. There are now non-invasive MRI tests for the prostate that may be more reliable than PSA. Researchers are marrying MRI with ultrasound to provide more accurate biopsy results.

Also, many prostate cancers are slow-growing and may never become life-threatening, particularly if a man is 70 or older. In that case, a urologist may recommend active surveillance rather than treatment.

Treatments are evolving

As with many cancers, researchers are using hormonal, genetic and immune therapies to treat more advanced cases of prostate cancer. In 2023, the FDA approved enzalutamide for some men who are at high risk of their cancer spreading but don’t show signs that it’s come back. Research is ongoing into whether these therapies help men live longer with better quality of life.

On the genetic front, some people inherit factors that limit their body’s ability to repair DNA damage. Such tumors can be treated with PARP inhibitors, which “turns off” a specific enzyme. Researchers are also looking into vaccines and other forms of immunotherapy to help the body be more effective at killing prostate cancer cells.

The same things you do for overall health also help your prostate: good diet, exercise, no tobacco. Supplements advertised as supporting prostate health have not been studied extensively, so don’t expect much in the way of results.

But I think the most important thing men can do is talk to their doctors -- and to each other -- about prostate health.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, R.N., a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. A Monson, MA resident, she is the author of “How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones” and her new book, “Advocating Well: Strategies for Finding Strength and Understanding in Health Care,” available at Amazon.com. Contact her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com to set up a free phone consultation.

WARREN PD from page 12

12:48 p.m. Welfare Check, Old West Warren Road, Report Filed

1:13 p.m. Unwanted Party, Main Street, Report Filed
2:56 p.m. Abandoned Vehicle, Old Brook Road, Officer/Chief Advised

Wednesday, July 8

5:58 a.m. 911 Hang-up/ Misdialed/Abandoned, South Street, Officer/Chief Advised
6:26 a.m. 911 Hang-up/ Misdialed/Abandoned, South Street, Area Search Negative
12:07 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle, Milton O. Fountain Way, Information Taken
1:03 p.m. Complaint, Town Farm Road, Unfounded
1:48 p.m. Illegal Dumping, Winthrop Terrace, Negative Contact
1:52 p.m. Sick, Old West Warren Road, Transported to Hospital
2:55 p.m. Missing Person, Cutler Road, Report Filed

Thursday, July 9

6:41 a.m. Lost Person/ Search and Rescue, Cutler Road, Investigated

7:11 a.m. 911 Hang-up/ Misdialed/Abandoned, Chapel Street, Officer Spoke to Party
7:52 p.m. Larceny or Theft, Main Street, Report Filed

Friday, July 10

7:27 a.m. Lost Person/ Search and Rescue, Cutler Road, Report Filed
1:23 p.m. Safety Concern, Quaboag Street, Area Search Negative
3:10 p.m. Complaint, Main Street, Officer Spoke to Party
3:53 p.m. Complaint, Dunham Road, Citation Issued
4:31 p.m. Sick/Unknown, Chapel Street, Mutual Aid Transport
5:25 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Dunham Road, Citation Issued
6:51 p.m. Follow-up Investigation, Southbridge Road, Report Filed
9:29 p.m. Safety Concern, Main Street, Negative Contact
10:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Chapel Street, Prisoner Bailed
Arrest: Eric K. Desorcy, 50, Warren
Negligent Operation

of Motor Vehicle; License Restriction, Operate Motor Vehicle in Violation; Speeding Rate of Speed Greater than was Reasonable and Proper c90 §17

Saturday, July 11

8:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
8:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Citation Issued
9:28 a.m. Vehicle Fire, Main Street, Fire Extinguished
1:55 p.m. Unconscious/ Unresponsive/Syncope, Brimfield Road, Ambulance Signed Refusal
3 p.m. 911 Hang-up/ Misdialed/Abandoned, Old West Warren Road, Information Taken
4:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Main Street, Written Warning
5:30 p.m. Complaint, Old Douglas Road, Investigated
9:36 p.m. Gunshots, Mill Street, Officer Spoke to Party
11:28 p.m. Assist Other Police Department, Ware, Mutual Aid Assist

Daniel J. Trzpit, 82

WARE – Daniel James Trzpit, age 82, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Daniel was born in Ware on Sept. 13, 1943, to the late Walter J. Trzpit and Charlotte S.

(Budczak) Trzpit. He was raised and educated in Ware, graduated from high school and furthered his education in Boston.

Daniel was employed for 30 years at Cascades Diamond, Inc. in Thorndike and retired from UMASS Amherst. He was a lifelong resident of Ware.

Daniel was an “amazing father, father-in-law, grandfather, brother, companion and friend.” His presence will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

Daniel was a long-time Little League Baseball Coach, coaching countless generations of children. He was a member of the Ware Bowling League, an avid candlepin bowler beginning in the 1960s until the time of his passing. He enjoyed Wednesday nights at the bowling alley.

He also enjoyed playing Cribbage with Jasju, and was an avid Boston Sports Fan. Daniel was a member of the former Narutowicz Club in Ware and was an active member of Planet Fitness in Belchertown.

On Dec. 13, 1984, Daniel lost his beloved wife and mother of his children, Patricia H. (Orzech) Trzpit. Daniel became more than a father to his sons, he showed them even in loss, to move forward, to love and respect everyone.

About two years ago, Daniel found love and companionship with Phyllis

Demers. Together, they enjoyed each other’s company, traveling on cruises, bus trips, and attending Senior Centers.

Daniel loved his family, spending time with his sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren. They meant everything to him, and he never missed one event. He loved his family cookouts and always looked forward to the next.

Daniel leaves behind his loving sons: David Trzpit and his wife Kim, James Trzpit and his wife Kellie, Andy Trzpit and his wife Lisa, and Bill Trzpit. He also leaves his loving grandchildren: Evan Trzpit (Anna), Jordan Trzpit (Joey), and Nathan Trzpit, his brothers; Walter Trzpit and his wife Christine, and Richard Trzpit and his wife Diane, brother-in-law, Thomas Orzech, his companion Phyllis Demers, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. “...and how lucky are all of you to have had someone so great in your lives, that makes his leaving so hard...”

Calling Hours took place on Monday, Aug. 3, 2026, in the Cebula Funeral Home. The Calling Hours concluded with prayer and reflection. Cremation took place in Springfield Cemetery & Crematory on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026.

Memorial Donations may be made to either: Ware Youth Baseball, or to the American Cancer Society.

Cebula Funeral Home is Directing the Final Arrangements. For more information and an online guestbook, please visit: www.cebulafuneralhome.com.



Death notice

Trzpit, Daniel J.
Died July 29, 2026
Services Aug. 3, 2026

OBITUARY POLICY

Ware River News
Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

\$12.50 Each

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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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CLUES ACROSS

- Bleated
- Snakelike fish
- Database management system
- Social evolution
- anthropologist Service
- American rocker Grohl
- Greek personification of compassion
- Negatives
- Rescued
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Assigns tasks
- Popular type of cigar
- Discounts
- The whole quantity
- New York Giants legend
- Indicates before
- Lentils
- Extremely angry
- Body part
- “North Star State”
- David __, US playwright

- Lower and raise one’s head
- Private rendezvous
- In a way, improved
- A place to play
- Astronomical period of 18 years
- Automobile
- Something you can take
- A radio band
- Jaws of a voracious animal
- Short-billed rails
- Chinese province
- Shameless
- Horizontal passage from the surface into a mine
- Indian respectful titles
- Fail to entertain
- Dried-up
- Central Utah city
- Southern U.S.
- German river
- Necessary for breathing
- Put into play

CLUES DOWN

- Curved segment
- Wings
- Yellowish volatile liquid
- Makes less severe
- Debit note
- Overhang
- The nights before
- Type of light
- Lacking enthusiasm
- Tattle
- Some is “heavy”
- One who is canonized
- Indicates date and place of writing
- “Peace” in Arabic
- “Olaf” actor Josh
- Fragmented rock
- They __
- Advanced degree
- Backside
- Influential architect and design couple
- An act of undue intimacy

- Words from which later words are derived
- 10 meters
- Neither
- Fungal sacs
- The law of God revealed to Moses
- A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- A promise
- Challenges
- British Air Aces
- Large bank
- Served as an omen
- Cavalry sword
- Vaccine developer
- Belgian WW2 resistance leader Jules
- Italian Seaport
- Hip joint
- __ Clapton, musician
- Insect repellent
- Constrictor snake
- “The First State” (abbr.)

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

HUNTINGTON BOARD OF HEALTH is seeking a part-time Transfer Station attendant. 16.33 per hour based on qualifications. Application and Job description are available online at **www.huntington.us** deadline is 8/18/2026.
Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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Inquire at **Girly's Grill, 1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069** or call **413-284-0005**.

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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public notices

ADVERTISEMENT
FOR BIDS
Town of Ware, Massachusetts
Church Street Sidewalk
Reconstruction
General Notice

The Town of Ware, MA is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:
Church Street Sidewalk Reconstruction
General Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the Board of Selectman’s office located at 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 **until Thursday, August 27, 2026 at 2PM local time.** At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

Reconstruction of approximately 2,000 linear feet of sidewalk on both sides of Church Street, spanning from the intersection of Church and Pleasant Street to Walnut Street. Key design elements of the project include a comprehensive overhaul of sidewalks to 5-foot-width on both sides of Church Street. The scope of work includes limited sections of new granite curbing, driveway aprons and the installation of ADA-compliant curb ramps at every crosswalk. MUTCD Pedestrian Crossing signs will be installed at and before each crosswalk. New pavement markings will be added at each crossing. Additionally, Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) will be placed along Church Street and minor utility relocations will be required to meet the new sidewalk elevations.

A pre-bid site walk is scheduled for 9AM on August 12, 2026. The pre-bid site walk will start at the intersection of Church and Pleasant Streets.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents

The Issuing Office is Wright-Pierce located at 94 North Elm Street, Suite 205, Westfield, MA 01085. Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website:

<https://www.wright-pierce.com/projects>

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website at a cost of \$65 per download.

To be considered a responsive Bidder, the Bidder shall have obtained at least one set of Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office using the name that is to appear on the Bid Form. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website. It is the Bidder’s responsibility to check the designated website for addenda.

Instructions to Bidders
For all further requirements regarding funding agency notifications, funding agency requirements, bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

Each Bid shall be submitted in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders and shall be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid.

No Bidder may withdraw their Bid for a period of thirty (30) days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays after the actual date of the opening of the General Bids. This advertisement does not obligate the Owner for any costs associated with preparing or submitting bids.

The successful General Bidder must furnish a 100 percent Performance Bond and a 100 percent Payment Bond with a surety company acceptable to the Owner.

Minimum wage rates as determined by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, Department of Labor Standards (DLS) under the provisions of M.G.L., Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D, as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the contractor, before bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on Prevailing Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed work under this contract. Federal Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the United States Department of Labor under the Davis-Bacon Act also apply to this project.

The Town of Ware reserves the right to waive any informality in or to reject any or all Bids if deemed to be in its best interest.

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: Town of Ware, MA
By: Stuart Beckley
Title: Town Manager
Date: 07/23/2026

08/06/2026

TOWN OF WARREN
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the “**Town of Warren, Warren Senior Center HVAC Improvements**”, will be received by the Town of Warren at the Shepard Municipal Building, Office of the Town Administrator (Second Floor), at 48 High Street, Warren, MA 01083 (P.O. Box 609, Attn. James Ferrera if using US Postal Service) **until 1:00 p.m. local time on September 9, 2026** at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud. Sealed Bids must have outer envelope marked as “**Town of Warren, Warren Senior Center HVAC Improvements**.”

The work consists of ductwork replacement and addition of “mini split” AC units. Bids shall be on a lump sum basis, with additive alternate bid items as indicated in the Bid Form.

All Bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 149, Section 44A - 44J inclusive as amended.

In accordance with Section 44D of Chapter 149 of the General Laws of Massachusetts as amended, the prospective General Bidders must submit with their Bid, a certificate of eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM), showing that the Bidder has been approved to bid on projects of the size and nature as advertised herein. Prospective General Bidders must also submit an updated statement summarizing their record for the period between the latest DCAMM certificate and the date of the Bid submittal. The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the General Bidder shall be for the category of work defined as “HVAC”.

Bidding Documents may be obtained electronically from the Tighe & Bond website at: http://www.tighebond.com/Projects_Out_to_Bid.php. Prospective bidders must complete a one-time registration process on the website in order to receive log-in credentials. Bidders must log in to the web site to download bidding documents for the project. Bidders will be added to the “planholders” or prospective bidders list upon downloading the bidding documents for the project.

A bid deposit of 5% shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The time period for holding Bids, is 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after opening of Bids.

Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the Commissioner of Department of Workforce Development under the provision of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D, as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the Contractor, before Bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on Minimum Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed Work under this Contract. Federal Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the United States Department of Labor under the Davis-Bacon Act also apply to this project.

An non-mandatory pre-Bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. local time on August 19, 2026 at the Warren Senior Center, 2252 Main St, West Warren, MA 01092.

Consulting Engineer:
Tighe & Bond Designer Services, Inc.
53 Southampton Road
Westfield, MA , 01085
413-562-1600
08/06, 08/13/2026

ADVERTISEMENT

The **Ware Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **Bathroom Renovation project (EOHLC 316104)** at the **Valley View Development, 667-01, 20 Valley View, Ware, Massachusetts**, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Jody Barker | Architecture + Design, LLC**.

The Project consists of: **Renovation of selected, existing residential bathrooms. Renovations to include replacement of existing toilets, sinks, faucets, shower valves, grab bars, mirrors, exhaust fan / light combinations, electric baseboards, new shower surrounds, new flooring, and new paint at walls and ceilings.**

The work is estimated to cost **\$6,000**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., August 21, 2026** and publicly opened, forthwith.

This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be prepared and submitted online at Projectdog.com and received no later than the date & time specified above. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. For assistance, contact Projectdog, Inc. at 978.499.9014.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the **Ware Housing Authority**.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available in electronic form and without cost or charge at Projectdog.com, project code **875576**, beginning August 5, 2026. Persons desiring hard copies of the documents shall be solely responsible for all printing costs.

The Contractor and all subcontractors (collectively referred to as “the Contractor”) agree to strive to achieve minority and women workforce participation. The Workforce Participation benchmark is set at 6.9% for women and 15.3% for minorities. The Workforce benchmark percentages are a statutory requirement under MGL c. 149 §44A(2)(G).

The job site and/or existing building will be available for inspection at **10:00 A.M. on August 13, 2026**.

For an appointment contact: Matthew Blanchard, RCAT PM; Phone: 978-394-9009; E-mail: Blanchard@worcesterha.org
08/06/2026

Town of Warren
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Town of Warren is soliciting sealed bids for its Translucent Window Panel Replacement Project at the Charles E. Shepard Municipal Building located at 48 High Street, Warren, MA 01083, until the time specified below at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Specifications and bid forms may be obtained on the Town’s website www.warren-ma.gov. **Sealed Bids will be accepted until August 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.** and will be opened shortly thereafter in the Office of the Town Administrator, second floor, 48 High Street, Warren, MA. Bids can be mailed or

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

dropped off to the Office of the Town Administrator Attn: Jim Ferrera, 48 High Street, P.O. Box 609 Warren, MA 01083. Each Bid must be accompanied by a bid security consisting of a BID BOND, CASH, or CERTIFIED CHECK issued by a responsible bank or trust company in the amount of 5% of the bid price.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference and Site Visit will be held at the Charles E. Shepard Municipal Building located at 48 High Street, Warren, MA on August 13, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. It is encouraged that any prospective bidders have a representative in attendance.

A performance bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total amount of the contract price with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, as well as a labor and materials (payment) bond in an amount equal to 50 percent of the total contract price.

All bids for this project are subject to applicable public bidding laws of Massachusetts, including, but not limited to G.L. c.149, §§44A-44H, as amended.

Attention is directed to the minimum wage rates to be paid as determined by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the weekly payroll record submittal requirements under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 through 27D inclusive.

Selection of the contractor will be based upon bidder qualifications, including evidence of past performance in similar projects, and bid price. The contract will be awarded to the bidder deemed by the awarding authority to be the lowest responsible and eligible bidder.

The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the bids.

The Town reserves the right to waive any informalities, to accept or reject, in whole or in part any or all bids, or take whatever other action may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.

The Town of Warren, MA
James J. Ferrera
Town Administrator
08/06, 08/13/2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 88 West Street, Ware, Massachusetts
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Thomas Hubbard to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (“MERS”), as mortgagee, as nominee for Norwich Commercial Group, Inc. d/b/a TPOGO its successors and assigns and now held by Freedom Mortgage Corporation, said mortgage dated

March 22, 2024, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15094, Page 194, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated December 23, 2024, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15314, Page 312, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 6, 2025, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15496, Page 282, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on **August 20, 2026 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Certain pieces of real estate situated in WARE, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, known and designated as 88 West Street, being more particularly bounded and described as follows:
Beginning at the northwesterly corner of the tract herein conveyed at an iron pin on the southerly side of said street;

thence SOUTHERLY on line of land formerly of the Murdock Estate about one hundred (100) feet to land formerly belonging to the P.J. Crowe Estate;

thence EASTERLY on land formerly of the P.J. Crowe Estate about fifty (50) feet to land formerly of Fred Burge;

thence NORTHERLY on land formerly of Fred Burge one hundred (100) feet to West Street;

thence WESTERLY on West Street to the place of beginning.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor’s Title see deed dated March 11, 2024, and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 15094, Page 191.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
275 West Natick Road,
Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886
Attorney for
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Present Holder of the Mortgage
Telephone: (401) 234-9200
MLG File No.: 25-01046
07/23, 07/30, 08/06/2026

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

TOWN of BRIMFIELD EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Emergency Management Director

DEFINITION

The Emergency Management Director designs emergency response plans and procedures to respond to emergencies and natural disasters. The Emergency Management Director works in coordination with government agencies, public safety officials, nonprofit organizations, and elected officials to help lead the response in crisis. This position is compensated with a stipend.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The essential functions or duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

- Responsible for planning and coordinating emergency management preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.
- Works collectively with various municipal departments ranging from School, Police, Fire, and Highway Departments as well as the Board of Health to ensure effective implementation of goals, training, emergency management, and planning.
- Acts as a liaison between the Town and relevant federal and state agencies, notably the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).
- Serves as an advisor regarding preparation for potential hazards, response to disasters, and post-event recovery.
- Performs other related job duties as required.

Please apply by submitting a letter of interest and resume to the Select Board Office, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or by email to selectboard@brimfieldma.org

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